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Date: December 15, 2000

By: Christine C. Gurney
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PATENT
Docket No. GCX329-US3



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Johannes C. van der Laan et al.

Serial No. 07/565,673

Filed: August 10, 1990

For: Efficient Production of Mutant
Proteases

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: C. Fronda

60/K
M.G.J.
1/2/01

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2000, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendment and remarks. This response is considered timely. A petition for a three-month extension of time until December 27, 2000, is submitted concurrently with this amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

K¹ 44. (amended) The method of Claim 41 wherein said alkalophilic Bacillus [strain] host is [a] Bacillus novo species PB92 or [a derivative thereof said derivative retaining characteristics of the parent strain] the derivative PBT110.

K² 49. (amended) The method of Claim 48 wherein said alkalophilic Bacillus strain is Bacillus novo species PB92 or [a derivative thereof said derivative retaining characteristics of the parent strain] the derivative PBT110.